The data available with National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) is given below:

States	1999		2000		2001	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Karnataka	8	5	Nil		4	2
Orissa	Nil	3		43	Nil	

(c) and (d) Government has initiated the following actions:

(i) A national workshop was conducted at the NICD in September, 2001 for developing surveillance mechanism for pathogens with biological warfare potential including that of anthrax.

(ii) An issue of CD alert (monthly Newsletter of NICD) on bio-terrorism with special reference to anthrax was circulated in October, 2001 to all the concerned health authorities in different States and Union Territories. The issue also covered the guidelines to be followed during biological war/terrorism and effective handling of suspicious envelops/package.

(iii) Guidelines for packaging, transportation of clinical specimens and processing protocol in laboratories were circulated to all the Medical Colleges in the country.

(iv) A meeting on chemical and bio-terrorism was organized on 29th October by the Department of Health which was participated by the Secretaries of Home & Health, Director of Health Services from various States/Union Territories. The representatives from the States informed the preparatory measures taken by them and assured availability of drugs in adequate quantity to tackle any situation.

(v) National Institute for Communicable Diseases, Delhi has been identified as the nodal agency to for investigations of any specimen suspected for anthrax.

(vi) A round the clock control room is functioning at NICD from 19th October, 2001 where suspected envelops/packages are being received for tests.

Anthrax Exposures

24. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:
SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken in India to fight Anthrax exposures reported internationally;

(b) whether drugs are stock piled in abundance; and

(c) the instructions given to the postal authorities and to the public in general for being alert over bio-terrorism?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. P. THAKUR): (a) Government has initiated the following actions;

(i) A national workshop was conducted at the NICD in September, 2001 for developing surveillance mechanism for pathogens with biological warfare potential including that of anthrax.

(ii) An issue of CD alert (monthly Newsletter of NICD) on bioterrorism with special reference to anthrax was circulated in October, 2001 to all the concerned health authorities in different States and Union Territories. The issue also covered the guidelines to be followed during biological war/terrorism and effective handling of suspicious envelops/package.

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(v) National Institute for Communicable Diseases, Delhi has been identified as the nodal agency to for investigations of any specimen suspected for anthrax.

(vi) A round the clock control room is functioning at NICD from 19th October, 2001 where suspected envelops/packages are being received for tests.

(b) Department of Health convened a meeting on Chemical and bio-terrorism on 29th October, 2001 in New Delhi which was participated by the Secretaries of Home & Health. The State representatives informed that they have enough stock of medicines to face any eventuality.

(c) To avoid spread of panic and handing of any suspicious envelops/ package guidelines have been issued.

Dengue and Malria cases in Delhi

25. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of dengue cases have been reported in Delhi on account of breeding aedes mosquitoes spreading dengue and malaria;

(b) if so, the number of cases detected in Delhi during the last six months; and

(c) the action taken by Government to control this dreaded disease?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) No, Sir, 84 cases of Dengue, transmitted by aedes mosquitoes, with one death amongst the residents of Delhi have been reported during the last 6 months (from May till 10th November, 2001) as against 93 cases with one death reported during the corresponding period of last year. This does not include the figures of Dengue cases belonging to other States and treated in Delhi hospitals.

(c) Action taken for control of Dengue include:—

- Dengue/Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever (DHF) has been made notifiable disease in Delhi.
- Disease and vector surveillance.
- Vector control mainly through source reduction.
- Early diagnosis and case management in hospitals.
- Information, Education and Communication for community awareness.
- Early response to epidemics.
- Regular monitoring and review of Dengue situation by the concerned authorities.